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CONFIDENTIAL

OCD FLD 808

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. [redacted]

25X1

TOPIC Military Information from the Zonal Border Area

25X1 EVALUATION [redacted] PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT early January 1951

25X1 DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 6 February 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1 [redacted]

1. The number of Soviet troops stationed in Leuen (M 54/T 09) in early January 1951 was estimated at 20. Nine soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were observed there on 2 January. Local residents said that 120 Volkspolizei were stationed in the town. According to an innkeeper, about 65 Volkspolizei were stationed at the Wreese estate.

2. It was learned from residents of Palingen (M 54/T 08) that 15 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, and about 65 Volkspolizei were quartered in the town.

3. On 5 January, 20 to 30 Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, were stationed in Herrnburg (M 54/S 98). The number of German police in the town was estimated at about 200.

4. About 50 Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and approximately 15 Volkspolizei were stationed in Luedersdorf (M 54/T 08). *

25X1 5. [redacted] the bathhouse which belongs to the social insurance and sick fund agencies in Sonneberg said that 653 soldiers, including 42 officers, bathed there on 12 January. The soldiers came from posts in the vicinity of Sonneberg, allegedly using trucks for transportation. The bath was arranged by the border guard headquarters in Koeppelsdorf on 10 January, which also agreed to pay the bill. A total of 310 soldiers who bathed in Sonneberg [redacted] ** 25X1

25X1 * [redacted] Comment. No change in the strength of Soviet border guard detachments seemed to have occurred prior to 5 January 1951. Compare with information of 10 January 1950 [redacted] reporting on the Ratzeburg-Schoenberg border area. 25X1

25X1 25X1 ** [redacted] Comment. [redacted] reported that a Soviet battalion allegedly arrived in the Sonneberg area at the beginning of January 1951.

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